

OLD TRAIL TO BE MARKED.

Route Over Which Pioneers Reached the Southwest Will Be Saved from Obliteration.

One of the most famous routes traversed by the early settlers of the southwest was known as the Santa Fe trail. This has been almost wholly obliterated of late years, but the Kansas Daughters of the Revolution propose that it shall be marked for the benefit of future generations. They are now seeking to mark it through the state by stone monuments. It will not matter how simple the monuments may be, they are to be representative of the entire state of Kansas. In their work they propose to interest the school children of the various counties through which the trail runs. These children will erect the monuments and will be aided in their work by the children of other counties.

Mrs. W. B. Stanley, wife of ex-Gov. Stanley, explains the work in a short talk before the meeting of the Elizabeth Benton chapter, held at the home of Mrs. Daniel Boone. "It has always been the plan of the Kansas Daughters to carry out much local work as possible," said Mrs. Stanley. "We have marked the spot where the first man to enter Kansas stood, and now we intend to mark the old Santa Fe trail. We are trying to interest the school children throughout the state in this and especially the children of the counties through which the trail passes. We will make this our work for the coming year, and at the end of that time we hope to have marked the entire length of the historic old road in our state."

THE LANGUAGE.

Is Not Stationary Affair, But Always Growing—Sources from Which Most New Words Come.

The English language is no stationary affair, fixed and limited in its scope, but few appreciate how fast it is growing. A new dictionary, just issued, says the Hartford Post, shows this; in fact, every new dictionary of importance that pretends to give the words in the language in completeness does the same. The particular dictionary referred to gives no less than 17,000 new terms or new meanings of old words. A large number of new terms in the language always come from scientific vocabularies. There is also a considerable addition through the adoption or modification of foreign words. As maps are expanded, changed or filled up through the labors of geographical explorers, so the investigations of the savants in astronomy, chemistry, electricity and other of the physical sciences, as well as in psychology, economics and philosophy, index widened mental horizons in terms that take permanent place in the language. The Spanish war brought many new words into use in the English language in this country.

Among the new words that the up-to-date dictionary must consider are such

terms as bogey, a term in golf; border-sau, briquet, chauffeur, expansionist, thorion, immune, laverick, manywhere, open door, osteopathist, ping-pong, popover, radium, ragtime, roof garden, rough rider, two-step, Zionism.

THREE YEARS LATE.

Train Started in September, 1903, and Has Just Reached Its Destination—75 Miles Away.

Persons who become fretful over the delays of surface cars or the detention of steam trains ought to sit up and be cheerful when they read what the New York Press has to say of a Texas train. The Press declares that recently a Gulf & Interstate railway train arrived in Beaumont nearly three years late, and explains the matter as follows:

The train left Bolivar, just across Galveston bay from Galveston, on September 8, 1900, and was caught in the great storm which so nearly destroyed Galveston. Bolivar is 75 miles from Beaumont. Before the train had traveled far on its journey it was caught in the storm. Thirty miles of the track were washed away, and the train was left stranded on a sandy waste.

Dozens of persons who lived on Bolivar peninsula were saved from death by taking refuge in the train. After the storm subsided they walked to Bolivar with the passengers. But the abandoned train was left on the prairie.

The storm bankrupted the railroad, and no effort to rescue the engine and cars was made until recently. Had the road not suffered so seriously in that storm the property would have proved of great value a few months later, when oil was struck at Beaumont. The road is now undergoing repairs and development, and a little while ago the train was drawn into Beaumont, where it was greeted by a cheering multitude.

Mystery in India.

Things sometimes happen in India which puzzle even those who have made a lifelong study of Indian matters. Tree-daubing and well-poisoning are well known, and a very remarkable movement, which has recently been taking place at Behar, must be added to the list. A strange order was circulated some weeks back in the district that for the space of 2½ days sons should not look on their fathers, nor fathers on their sons, and that if the order was disobeyed the time would be extended to 2½ months. Only Hindus were affected, and even queer "waves of underground excitement" indicate that there are millions in India still who can be swayed by mysterious agencies over which the civil government has no control, and to which it can sometimes find no sort of clue.

Fines for Corset Weavers.

A French physician, Dr. Marechal, advocates the passing of a law making the wearing of a corset by any woman under 30 an offense punishable by three months' imprisonment if she is of age and a fine of \$20 to \$200 imposed on her parents or guardians if she is under age.

THE DEAD LETTER SALE.

Not a Sale of Letters But of the Merchandise They Often Contain—An Explanation.

Referring to the article protesting against the method of the post office department in disposing of undelivered articles of merchandise, etc., accumulated in the dead letter office, permit me to say, says a Washington Star writer by way of correcting what seems to be a wrong impression, that so far as letters are concerned, they are never put up for sale, only the merchandise they chance to contain. All letters received at the dead letter office are treated as strictly private, which they are. They are at once returned to the writer or forwarded to the addresses, when either can be done. Otherwise they are destroyed. Parcels or articles of merchandise are held some years, after a diligent effort made to restore them to a rightful owner has failed, after which such merchandise as is salable and fit therefor is prepared for the annual sale, the original wrapper and all identity of the former owner having been removed. Hence it cannot make a particle of difference to the former owner of such parcel whether it was sold or destroyed, and but little remains to satisfy the "morbid curiosity" of the buyer, beyond the interest naturally felt in a speculative way. Then, if the eager buyer, scoldis by the deal, which is the general rule, and \$3.00 or \$4.00 go to the government as a partial reimbursement for the expenses of this service for the public, why not? Who is there who would not prefer to have his or her stray goods sold to the interest of both the public and the government to their being burned, and which is the most "scandalous?"

TEN LAYERS OF HISTORY.

On One Sacred Site in Egypt Temples Had Been Piled on Ruins of Other Temples.

For the first time the whole history of one of the great national sites of Egypt has been opened before us; dating from the beginning of the kingdom, and ending with almost the last of the native kings—from Menes, about 4700 B. C., to Nebkhe-herhef, 370 B. C., says Harper's Magazine. History is here laid out for us in strata, from which the past can be read as we lift them away one from another.

In order to read, however, one must know the alphabet of the subject; and that has lately been learned, from the pottery, the flints, the beads, which show, each, the age to which they belong. Excavation on a site with a long history is mere destruction if each stratum is not read and interpreted intelligibly as it is opened; unfortunately this has never been done before on any such site. On the earliest sacred site of Abydos, the first capital of Egypt, temples had been piled one on the ruins of another until ten layers of buildings stood stacked together in about 20 feet depth of ruins. Each temple had become sac-

red after a few centuries, and had at last been pulled down, leaving out of two of the walls and foundations and a new temple of a different plan was then erected on the ground. America is not old enough for this to be done even once, but London stands on a level of over 20 feet of ruins, from which its past will be read as we now read that of Egypt.

INDIAN SUMMER.

It's Easy to Tell When That Belonged to Season Ends, But When Does It Begin?

In the gentle and indelible shading of summer into autumn, when does Indian summer begin? Is it a genuine authentic Indian summer if no frost has preceded it? Or must the wood light up their banners to herald its advent? An Indian summer that is no more of a few frosty nights may suddenly backslide and become a reversal of a summer itself, says the St. Louis Globe-Democrat. We can reconcile the deals of that perfect season of the year with a return to perspiration and the casting off of coats. An Indian summer of hot days is no Indian summer. I cannot come scorching and sweetening as July, August and September, but rather in blue mists or gray, every day breaking in the same unvarying flat and tones and likewise temperature of the one before it, as if nature had saved her best in the bottom of the basket and were hanging out an unsponsored one every morning. Indian summer may continue long after the last leaf has fallen and been gathered to its companions in the brown windows. It is not perplexing to discover when Indian summer ends. It is swept out and washed away in long cold November rains, that stretches its warning streamers across the sky for days before it spreads its dripping wintry pall over the earth. But when does Indian summer begin?

Railway Construction.

In 1857 an American named Collins first proposed a railway from the Annu to the village of Tchita. Later, several plans were formulated, but it was not until March 27, 1891, that the Trans-Siberian railroad was definitely determined on and projected by an Imperial order. On May 19, 1891, the first stone was laid. The line covers 3,562 miles in Russian territory and 1,604 miles in Chinese territory. In ten and one-half years 5,166 miles of rails were laid. In the Canadian Pacific, constructed under similar conditions, it took ten years to lay 2,821 miles of rails.

Cruel Punishment.

A man who was caught in the act of committing burglary at Paterson, N. J., was ducked several times in clean water and then told to leave town. It is reported that the friction he created in the air as he left alone his clothes on fire.

In Early Days.

The earliest railroads were designed to be tollways, on which any man could in his own cars on his own schedule.

GENIUS IN THE BUCKETSHOP.

New York Operator Got Onto a Fast Wire and It Brought Him a Doost.

"It takes two wide open eyes to keep the sharps from eating you up in this business nowadays," said the bucketshop man, relates the New York Sun. "Only yesterday I stopped a gap that was costing me money every day we had any activity in the market."

"You see, our Rochester office gets its quotations by a direct wire from New York, while our Buffalo office is on a circuit of a New York-Chicago wire, and is about two minutes slower. We have a direct wire from the Rochester office to the Buffalo office, as well as long-distance 'phone connection."

"The operator in the Rochester office got wise that his wire was two minutes faster than the Buffalo ticker and got to trading with the Buffalo office over the direct wire whenever movement of a stock was enough to give him a margin the best of it. This puzzled us for a while, for Rochester was taking all the profit out of our Buffalo sheets."

"Suppose you fired the Rochester operator," remarked the listener.

"Not at all," said the bucketshop man. "I brought him down and installed him in the office here. Rochester is too small a town for the operation of such genius."

Underworld Exploration.

Prof. W. W. Watts, the English geologist, strongly advocates a new geological survey of England, which shall do as much to make known the subterranean world there as existing surveys have done to make known that which lies on the near surface. This demand grows out of the ever-recurring question of the approaching exhaustion of the British coal-fields. Prof. Watts says that there is still an area of concealed coal fields left, possibly at least as large and productive as those already explored but to develop them work will have to be done at a depth of thousands instead of hundreds of feet. The first step must be systematic and detailed exploration of these invisible fields under the guidance of scientific principles.

The "Sola" Tree of India.

The "sola" of India is a small tree from 6 to 10 feet high, with a tapering stem. The leaves are consumed as a vegetable and the light spongy wood serves for a variety of purposes, one of the latest being sun-proof hats or helmets. The wood is cut into thin bands which are stuck together and molded into shape. Another recent use for the wood is to make non-conducting covers or vessels for keeping water and other drinks cool. They might be useful at home in summer.

Maid-servant Decorated.

Sho Masuda, a domestic servant of Niwagori, Japan, has had a green ribbon conferred on her by the Japanese bureau of decorations in recognition of her remarkable fidelity to the family who employed her. This is said to be the first instance of a domestic servant being decorated by a government.—London Mail.

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